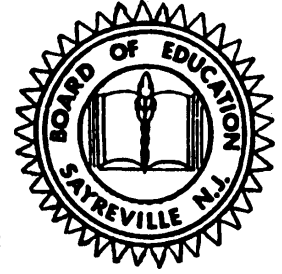


HEAD OF THE CLASS



The Monthly Newsletter of the Sayreville Board of Education

Volume 14, Issue 1

September 2007

WELCOME BACK!

The Sayreville Board of Education would like to welcome students, parents, faculty, and staff back to a new and exciting school year! Indeed, there is much to be excited about.

We also extend a warm welcome to our 70 new staff members and thank you for sharing your talents and love of learning with Sayreville's children.

As many of you return to the district, you'll notice some of the most notable signs of progress are at Sayreville War Memorial High School this year where work is concluding on the science and athletic wing renovations. Stage one's completion date is scheduled for early 2008 when we will be opening our brand new two-story science wing and new auxiliary gym. Once this wing is completed the demolition of the B-Wing is next and in its place will be a state of the art two story 25-classroom addition.

It has been said that progress without inconvenience is impossible and this renovation project is no exception. During this coming school year, the student cafeteria will be under renovation for approximately 10 months. The temporary student cafeteria during this time will be housed in the new auxiliary gym. More information regarding these changes will be made available when students return to school. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we continue to upgrade S.W.M.H.S. to serve students for decades to come.

The other facility which is receiving a major upgrade is the Wilson School. Work at Wilson School has gone on all summer with the entire building being re-pointed and waterproofed. Over the last two years, the Board of Education has put almost \$2 million into interior heating infrastructure upgrades, exterior re-pointing/waterproofing and new roof improvements, so that the building will be compliant with State standards.

Congratulations are in order for Mr. Robert Preston (High School) and Ms. Stacey Maher (Middle School) who have both been promoted to Vice Principal. Also Ms. Bonnie Brady was appointed as the new Samsel Upper Elementary School Vice Principal. Other appointments and congratulations go to Ms. Carol Duffy as the new Director of Special Services replacing Harry Bell who retired, Ms.

Donna Sicola as the new Supervisor of Guidance, and Ms. Catherine Mellon who is now the new Special Education Supervisor.

On the curriculum front, we have aligned and approved over 30 curricula to New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS). These curricula will be implemented in 2007-2008 along with other aligned curricula from the past five years. This is the last year of our original curriculum cycle and by the end of this school year 99% of our curriculum will be updated. Thank you to all the teachers who have participated in this very worthwhile and rewarding endeavor over the past five years. The curriculum writing program is a resounding success due the efforts of the teaching and supervisory staff. This collaborative effort was again led by Mrs. Georgia Baumann, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Such a process of curriculum revision and alignment will assure that all students receive the most up-to-date instruction necessary to be successful on New Jersey State assessments.

One of the major features of the budget which was presented to the community in April 2007, was a new K-3 reading series. We are very pleased to announce that the district has purchased 'Storytown,' a Harcourt reading program for grades K-3. This program will provide our students with a scientifically research based reading series that includes current materials and skill building activities that fully align with the New Jersey Core Content Standards. The adoption of "Storytown" will further ensure that our students have a strong literacy base that will prepare them for the rigors of their academic program.

Thanks to our technology team, our district website was also given a facelift this summer. For information about what is happening in the Sayreville Public Schools throughout the school year, you are encouraged to visit our district's website at <http://www.sayrevillek12.net>.

Along with a new school year also comes a new sports season. The Board of Education encourages you to attend our various fall sports events to support our teams. Go Bombers ... Go Big Blue!!

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! We wish everyone much success in the upcoming months!